

Objection to the MTRC's proposal to site a ventilation shaft at David Trench Rehab Centre opposite
Bonham Road Government Primary School (BRGPS)
To be presented at the Legislative Council Rail Group Meeting
On 4th June 2009

ALTERNATIVE TO THE CURRENT PROPOSAL	MTRC'S COMMENTS	OBJECTION / OPINION OF BRGPS PARENTS AND TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
<p>1. <u>revert to the ORIGINAL proposal</u> of locating the shaft in a basketball court in King George V Park; convert David Trench Rehab Centre to a basketball court or other leisure facilities;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The original proposal was not preferred as there was reluctance to lose leisure facilities in the neighbourhood. ● The space available at David Trench Rehab Centre is not sufficient for a basketball court. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lateral thinking please! ● We can <u>re-design</u> the layout of the Park and <u>re-locate</u> the basketball court in the Park. ● Any loss of leisure facilities (e.g. sitting area) due to the re-location can be compensated by the open space at David Trench Rehab Centre. ● This is the <u>win-win proposal</u>: the public will not lose out in terms of open space and leisure facilities; the students, parents and teaching staff at BRGPS will not be threatened by all of the hazards associated with the construction and operation of the shaft.
<p>2. construct the ventilation shaft on the slope near High Street</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The shaft will block the view of the front facade of the Western District Community Centre. ● It will also be close to a child care centre. ● The shaft will be far away from the station and hence less efficient. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Avoid double standard please! ● Are there government guidelines or generally agreed standards applicable to the protection of Grade 1 and Grade 2 heritage buildings? On what basis is a decision taken that the Community Centre deserves more attention/protection than our School? Why is a child care centre your concern, and our School is not? ● The School is attended by 400 students and teachers, 8 hours daily and 5 days weekly. How often is the Community Centre used? Are there any statistics to compare the usage? A responsible Government should aim to put community resources to the best use. ● We do not accept "blocking the view" of a rarely used building may be a valid or meaningful reason in this discussion. ● Exactly what are the distances - how far is "far"? How far is the shaft from the Community Centre and the child care centre, compared to the shaft opposite BRGPS?
<p>3. construct the ventilation shaft on the slope at the junction of Hospital Road and East Street</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The shaft will take up public open space. ● The shaft will be far away from the station and hence less efficient. ● It will also impact the trees in the neighbourhood. ● It will be located close to the hospital facilities and certain residential buildings on East Street. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Again, avoid double standard please. ● Why are trees, hospital facilities and residential buildings more of your concern than the generations of school children attending BRGPS? ● Any loss of public open space will be compensated by the open space available at David Trench Rehab Centre (please see win-win proposal in point 1 above). ● Again, how far is "far"? How far is the shaft from the hospital and residential buildings, compared to the shaft opposite BRGPS?